°. MUSEUM NEWS °.

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

No. 24

TOLEDO, OHIO December, 1914



SELF PORTRAIT

Gift of Edward Drummond Libbey

JOSEF ISRAELS



THE DAILY BREAD

Gift of Edward Drummond Libbey

JOSEF ISRAELS

PRESIDENT LIBBEY'S LATEST GIFTS. THE permanent collection of the Toledo Museum of Art has been enriched by two important paintings from the brush of the greatest of modern Dutch masters Josef Israels. These two splendid acquisitions are the gift of President Edward D. Libbey. It is doubtful if there exist better examples of the great genius of Josef Israels. The larger is entitled The Daily Bread and was painted some years ago when the master was at the culmination of his best period. The other is a self portrait painted in the evening of the artist's life but recorded with all the vigor and mastery of his earlier days. It will rank with the greatest of modern portraits. The artist is shown standing in front of one of his most notable canvases, David and Saul. The self portrait done in 1908 was one of a series painted by the artist every ten years and was probably the last. Shortly after it was publicly exhibited Mr. Libbey gave a notable dinner to the master at Scheveningen, Holland, and as the result of friendship there cemented the portrait was allowed to come into Mr. Libbey's possession. When it was sent to this country the following letter accompanied it:

Dear Mr. Libbey:—Herewith goes the water color portrait I just finished. I believe it to be one of my best works and it is a pleasure for me to hear that you will give it to the Museum of Toledo. I remember still with pleasure the fine evening you gave me at Scheveningen and I recommend myself in future in your friendship. My best compliments to Mrs. Libbey.

JOSEF ISRAELS.

Josef Israels, the greatest of all the modern Dutch masters, was born at Groningen, in Holland, in 1824, and died in 1911. He was the son of a Jewish banker, and though ambitious to become a rabbi, having made serious study in that direction, he finally entered his father's office, where he remained a short time, when, his art proclivities becoming manifest, he was placed under proper tuition at Amsterdam. From there he went to Paris to become a pupil of Picot. Impressed by the classical manner, he painted compositions that cost him much labor but made little public appeal, and his resources being small, he was

obliged to make great economies, to the end that he undermined his health for lack of proper food and comforts. Returning to Holland, it was necessary for him to recuperate, and he went to a small seaside village, where he lived in great simplicity among the peasants. Impressed by the simple picturesque people, he began, with the restoration of his health, to paint them, and from the first he was successful, both artistically and in a material way, becoming the acknowledged pictorial historian of the peasantry of Holland. Greatly beloved by his people and his confreres, he received at home and abroad the most distinguished honors. It is said, whenever his small figure, for he was much undersized, appeared

at the theater or any public gathering, that the assemblage always rose to its feet to pay him royal homage.

Josef Israels was an Honorary Member of the Academies of Antwerp, Edinburgh, and Munich; Corresponding Member of the Institute of France; Officer of the Legion of Honor, France, and of Orders in Austria, Belgium, Italy, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg. His works are found in all the leading galleries and important collections in Europe and in this country as well. The two examples now permanently installed in the Toledo Museum through the munificence of President Libbey, will for all time, be a source of pleasure and inspiration to the people of this vicinity.



PORCELAIN

GIFT OF REV. ALFRED DUANE PELL

RARE PORCELAIN PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM

THE permanent collections of the Toledo Museum of Art have been enriched by a most valuable and important collection of celebrated examples of porcelain. The gift comes from Rev. Alfred Duane Pell, of New York, the eminent authority on porcelain and other branches of art, whose collections of porcelain in his Fifth Ave. residence and his London home are among the most noted in the world. He has presented fine collections to several of the important museums of this country, including Toledo Museum of Art. This splendid gift has been installed in the museum, where it may be studied with profit by students and connoisseurs.

In the collection are many historic pieces of porcelain whose one time ownership by several of the great families and royalties of Europe adds a touch of personal interest to the intrinsic beauty of these exquisite examples of the potter's art. There are some eighty pieces in this collection, including some of the best of the shapes and designs of the art of Worcester and Sevres when these manufactories were at their best periods.

A small blue pitcher in the collection was made in the second royal epoch at Sevres, together with a saucer of the same pattern for Louis Phillippe, the king of France, for the use of the royal family at the Tuilleries. One plate of the set, which was given to Crown Prince Rudolph and Stephanie on their marriage, by the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, is an especially fine example of Austrian ware. A rich border of blue enameled in gold surrounds an interlaced monogram, R. S., standing for Rudolph and Stephanie, under a gold crown.

Eight pieces of a cream ware set of Sevres belonged to the third Napoleon and each piece bears the famous Napoleon crown

and "N" in gold. There are pieces of Sevres which were designed for the great Chateaux of St. Cloud, Compiegne, and perhaps more interesting than all is a small mauve saucer which was part of the set made for the Emperor Napoleon I, as a gift for his sister, Pauline Borghese.

The four cups and saucers in the accompanying illustration are exceedingly rare and interesting examples. The first was made in a Parisian manufactory in the Rue de le Roquette by M. Darte, and bears his mark on the bottom of both the cup and the saucer. A rich gold scroll on a dark blue ground is the decoration. Chaffers, in his book on "Pottery and Porcelain," mentions the fact of a cup and saucer of this make, having been bought by the Sevres Museum in 1807. The exquisite covered cup of red, blue, green, pink and gold, bearing a classic

medallion, is a piece of Austrian porcelain, and is marked with the shield of Austria.

In 1744 an imperial China manufactory was established in Russia by the Empress Elizabeth Petrowna. This example was made in the time of Nicholas I, 1825-1855, and bears the same mark as that on a plate presented at that time to the Museum of Sevres by Emperor Nicholas I of Russia. This factory has the unique distinction of never having sold a piece of its manufacture at any price, it all being the property of the Royal family and court. The cup and saucer of Pompeian design, with figures in colors on a black ground, was made by P. L. Dagoty of Paris and is signed by him. A plate of similar design was sent to the Sevres Museum in 1804.

Our members and citizens will thoroughly appreciate Dr. Pell's interest and generosity.



BIRD HOUSE MODELS

MUSEUM BIRD CAMPAIGN

THE MUSEUM BIRD CAMPAIGN

DURING the coming season the Toledo Museum of Art will conduct a Bird Campaign similar in scope to the City Beautiful Movement of the past summer. Illustrated talks will be given to the school children during the winter, showing with the aid of colored slides sixty or more of the birds which are common in this vicinity and suggesting to the children how they may become a force in the protection and preservation of our songsters.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hixon have presented the lumber which will be used in the manual training department of the public

schools in making bird houses, after designs approved by the United States Biological Survey. Mr. Carl Cotter, head of the manual training department of the public schools, is in charge of this branch of the work.

The J. M. Skinner Bending Company have donated all of the bark necessary to cover many of the bird houses, the models of which call for such treatment.

Mr. Marshall Sheppey has offered a prize of \$50 to the school making the best showing, both in construction and output.

On the third of April, which is John Bur-

roughs' birthday, these bird houses will be put up with appropriate ceremonies in the parks and boulevards of Toledo. This date was chosen to honor the great man whose influence has accomplished so much for the protection of birds in our country.

Several experts have offered to talk at different times in the hemicycle of the museum, both to the children and to the grown people who will be interested. Among these are Dr. C. C. Sherwood, Mr. Morrison Van Cleve and Mr. George Chiesa.

Mr. W. H. Steffens, who lectured to the schools on gardening last season, will talk to the fruit growers and farmers of this vicinity on birds as the preservers of crops.

Models of bird houses, food shelters, feeding boxes, suet bags and bird baths, all of the simplest construction, will be on exhibition at the museum that the children may receive ideas and inspirations for their work.

It is hoped that a collection of birds showing the common migrants and the winter residents may be secured for exhibition during the winter that the children may become familiar with the different varieties.

Any Toledo citizen having suggestions, money, time, interest or enthusiasm to offer in this cause will please communicate with Mrs. George W. Stevens, the Assistant Director of the Art Museum.

The campaign will be inaugurated on Friday evening, December four, by Mr. Albert H. Pratt of New York City, president of the Burroughs Nature Club, who will lecture in the hemicycle of the museum to the members of the museum and all others who are interested, on the conservation of our song birds.

THE TOLEDO COLLECTORS' LEAGUE.

of some three hundred boy collectors, commenced its season at the Museum on the evening of October 5. Two evening meetings and one afternoon meeting are to be held each month. The boys meet for exchange of stamps, coins, etc., and for study. If your boys are collectors advise them to join. The president is Clarence Redman, 2226 Erie street, and secretary, Donald Coleman, 1264 Fernwood avenue. Applications for memberships may be made to these officers or to Director Stevens at the Museum.

MRS. MARS NEARING'S GIFT.

THROUGH the great generosity of Mrs. Mars Nearing the museum now owns a beautiful Steinway grand piano. The acquisition of this fine instrument will allow the museum to conduct many activities for the furtherance of the sister art of music and to that end the museum has appointed a music committee as follows: Miss Lina C. Keith, chairman, Mrs. Frederick R. Persons, Mrs. W. W. Chalmers, Mrs. S. M. Jones, Rev. Louis E. Daniels and Mr. Walter E. Ryder. This committee will plan to make the piano and the hemicycle of practical use to all students, music teachers and music lovers. It has already been decided to give the music teachers of the city the privilege of holding their pupils' recitals at the museum, free to our members, invited guests and any one interested.

Mrs. Nearing's gift was dedicated in the presence of a large and appreciative audience on the evening of Friday, November 6. The following splendid program was rendered:

Chorus—On Music's Wing....Mendelssohn Group of Ladies from Eurydice Club Mrs. Otto Sand, Accompanist

Dedication Address.Rev. Allen A. Stockdale Response......Mr. George W. Stevens

- a To Welcome You....A. Goring Thomas
 b O Sleep! (Semele).......Haendel
 c To Spring......Gounod
 Mrs. Albro Blodgett

- Mr. Arthur Frazer

 a Waldeinsamkeit. Max Reger
- b Maedchenfluch. Brahms

 Mrs. Albro Blodgett

 Mrs. H. W. Dachtler, Accompanist

The hostesses for the evening were Mrs. S. M. Jones, Mrs. Frederick Persons, Mrs. Robinson Locke, Mrs. Chas. S. Ashley, Mrs. George W. Stevens, Miss Lina C. Keith, and Mrs. W. W. Chalmers.



: MUSEUM NEWS:

Toledo Museum of Art

EDITOR, GEORGE W. STEVENS. Director of the Toledo Museum of Art.

No. 24

DECEMBER

1914

EDITORIAL.

THERE will be on exhibition during the month of December at the museum many art objects appropriate for Christmas gifts. Especially interesting will be a fine collection of small bronzes by leading American sculptors brought together by the American Federation of Arts. F. Hopkinson Smith will show a score of picturesque inns, gardens and by ways in water color. His delightful paintings are especially appropriate for the home. F. F. Fursman, whose "In the Garden" is owned by the museum, will show an interesting group of his latest canvases, and Edmund Greacen will also have on exhibition a group of paintings in oil including quite a number of small canvases, many of which will be for sale.

Members will consequently have a splendid opportunity to purchase at very reasonable figures interesting and important works of art, and while these will assist them in settling the Christmas present problem it will also be of great assistance to the museum inasmuch as it is necessary for us to sell the work of our artists that it may be made worth their while to send their work to Toledo. The artists in the past have done much for the Toledo Museum of Art without thought of any financial gain and our members ought to return the compliment by making purchases from the museum's exhibitions.

HE trustees, officers and members of the Toledo Museum of Art are most grateful to Mrs. Mars Nearing for her splendid gift of a beautiful Steinway grand piano. We have long needed a fine instrument that the hemicycle might be equipped to do some useful work in the community along musical lines. Not only are those closely identified with the museum appreciative of Mrs. Nearing's gift, but gratitude is felt in many other circles, especially among our music teachers, the pupils and their parents. With the acquisition of this fine instrument we will immediately cause to be developed plans whereby it can be made useful to many who are interested in the development of the musical arts

of Art from a small beginning has encouraged many places to inaugurate similar movements. Youngstown, Ohio, is the latest city to show an interest in the fine arts, a museum having been incorporated by a group of the foremost citizens as one of the permanent results of the recent exhibition of Ohio Painters shown in that city during the Convention of the Federation of Women's Clubs of Ohio. The collection was brought together by the Assistant Director of the Toledo Museum of Art as Chairman of the Art Committee of the State Federation.

During the progress of the exhibition a meeting was held in the galleries at which the preliminary steps were taken in the organizing of a Youngstown Museum of Art. Mr. Joseph G. Butler, Jr., President of the Youngstown Chamber of Commerce, presided. Mrs. George W. Stevens, the Assistant Director of the Toledo Museum of Art, outlined a plan of procedure and told the story of the birth and growth of the Toledo Museum. A sufficient number of members were secured at this first meeting to assure the permanency and success of the Youngstown museum. The following trustees were elected: J. G. Butler, Jr., Charles F. Owsley, James W. Porter, Jonathan Warner, John Stambaugh, Rev. Edward Mears, Wm. F. Maag, Jr., E. L. Ford, Mrs. Mellicent R. Wick, Dr. Ida Clark, Mrs. Sara O. Baker, Mrs. Caroline H. B. Wick, Mrs. Helen T. Meyer, Mrs. Grace J. Hitchcock and Mr. Robert Bentley.



ART UNION LOTTERY. 1847

FROM AN EARLY LITHOGRAPH

INTERESTING ACQUISITIONS.

Michigan Street, Toledo, has presented to the museum a number of interesting gifts pertaining to the American Art Union, a very remarkable society organized in 1840 for the purpose of promoting the Fine Arts in the United States. The American Art Union grew to be formidable in size and in influence. In 1847 it had over 7,000 members scattered throughout the country. Every year it purchased many fine paintings which were given annually to the members by lottery, and in this way the work of the best painters found its way into the leading homes in the various cities.

Back in 1847 the following Toledoans were members of the Art Union: Mrs. Matthew Johnson, William Baker, Charles M. Dorr, T. C. Everts, Maria E. Everts, John Fitch, E. D. Potter, D. G. Saltonstall, R. W. Titus, Daniel Wadsworth and M. R. Waite. The President of the Union in about 1850 was John P. Ridner, of New York, who was the father of the late Joseph H. Ridner, of Toledo.

Among the gifts to the museum presented by Mrs. Ridner is a portrait of President Ridner, together with several other sketches and medals struck for the Art Union, and also an early lithograph which has for its subject the distribution of the American Art Union prizes at the Tabernacle, Broadway, New York, December 24, 1847. Included in Mrs. Ridner's gift is a medal struck in honor of Gilbert Stuart. Aside from the artistic value of the gifts they are most interesting because of their connection with an important art movement in the early part of the last century.

DECEMBER LECTURES.

M. ALBERT H. PRATT of New York, president of the Burroughs Nature Club, will lecture at the museum Friday evening, December 4, opening the museum's campaign for the preservation of our birds. His subject will be, The Birds Our Protectors, illustrated with many colored slides.

On the evening of Tuesday, December 8, Mr. Frank Fruttchey of Detroit, will lecture in the hemicycle on values in music with instrumental illustrations.



TOLEDO AS SEEN FROM THE UNION STATION

TOLEDO'S UNION STATION.

BESIDES being the City Beautiful, Toledo is the second greatest railroad centre in the United States.

If you don't believe it look at the Union Station.

Think of it—the second greatest railroad centre in the United States.

We should feel proud.

There are a score of unknown towns in Michigan with better station facilities than Toledo.

What boots it then, our pride?

Entering Toledo there are fourteen important steam roads, any one of which single handed has erected dozens of better stations than the Union affair in Toledo.

In union there is strength.

Somebody said so.

Somebody also said there would be no war.

The Union Station and its facilities are a joke.

The term facilities as here used is also a joke.

The main entrance of weathered siding is about the size of a chicken coop.

If you don't keep many chickens.

This affair has a window and two doors of the early woodshed period.

All this opens up into a waiting room where you pray you will not wait long.

The waiting room contains a second-hand

set of offices, furniture and compartments in the cut rate barber shop style.

All this opens into a cow shed where mussed-up travelers are shoved through one small door on to the tracks.

This briefly is what the great Lake Shore road provides for Toledo.

Is there anything like it in Lenawee Junction?

Not much.

Lenawee Junction wouldn't stand for it. Toledo is the second greatest railroad center in the United States, and yet the only familiar depot objects around the Union Station are the time tables and the hole in the doughnut.

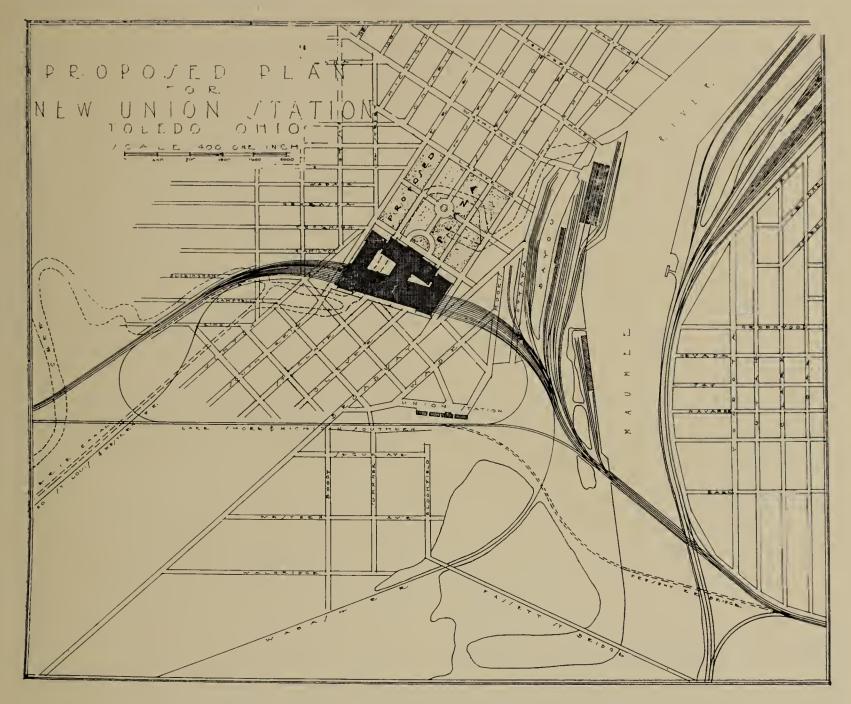
The Lake Shore is not to blame for these conditions.

The Toledo of other days was a thoughtless sister. She had holes in her stockings and ran down at the heels. Her back hair was untidy and her feathers were moth eaten.

She didn't attract much favorable attention.

Somebody handed her the Union Station and she got what she deserved.

Today, however, finds Toledo awakened to a civic consciousness. She is alive and doing. Her people are enterprising, generous and progressive. They are busy creating a great and beautiful city. It is time also for the Lake Shore to awaken to a realization of Toledo's renaissance.



SUGGESTION FOR A UNION STATION AND PLAZA

Last month the Museum News made mention of the Byzantine cobblestone mosaic in front of the Union Station.

This mention called forth the following breezy letter from the general manager of the Lake Shore railroad, Mr. D. C. Moon:

"Dear Mr. Editor:—There has been forwarded to me a copy of your paper containing criticism of pavement in front of Toledo passenger station. I think it quite proper, and the pavement is unsightly I quite agree, although used but very little by the public.

"It, however, brings to my mind the city street conditions between the station and the business center. On one street cobblestones all the way; on others very bad paving, and as a climax to disreputable conditions,—'Swan Creek.'

"The railroad paved Knapp street and beautified its grounds, and aside from being probably the largest tax-payer in the city, it has spent between \$5,000,000.00 and \$6,000,000.00 in improvement, much of

which is a direct benefit to citizens as well as the Company. I would like to ask how much, during the past ten years, the city has spent on highways or surroundings between the station and the business center where thousands of people (many of whom are strangers) travel.

"Do you not think in trying to get to the top of the mountain you have only found a mole-hill when you refer to the few cobblestones in front of the Union Depot? And, do you not think it about time for your otherwise beautiful and interesting city to awake on the subject of improving the district I refer to, and make it decently attractive for a traveler to pass through?

"Personally, I believe Swan Creek should be diverted and the valley taken over by the city and made a part of its park system, as it reasonably well can be, and its location would make it most convenient and attractive. They should likewise straighten and improve the streets across and south of Swan Creek for better comfort and con-

venience of the citizens in getting to the station and for the large population on the south side.

"I am not disposed to discuss the subject at length, but as our Company is a very heavy tax-payer we surely are interested, and the present conditions are such as to preclude a fair criticism by any resident of Toledo about railroad conditions until they have done some cleanup work on their own account.

"Swan Creek valley should be made as fragrant as roses and violets, whereas now it is an eye-sore and has odors that if bottled and shipped to the warring nations should outrival turpentide (that is supposed by one shell to asphyxiate a whole nation).

"My dear Mr. Editor, let me again urge in all seriousness that the people of Toledo arouse themselves on this important subject of improvement between the business center and the south side, and I assure you the Lake Shore railroad will cheerfully try to do its part. Sincerely yours,

> D. C. MOON, General Manager.

The Editor of the Museum News, merely expressing the opinions of a great many Toledoans, replied to General Manager Moon as follows:

"My Dear Mr. Moon:—The Editor of the Museum News has read with satisfaction your delightful letter of November 2.

"Touching on the cobblestones, we did not intend to blame the Lake Shore for their retention, but rather our own city officials.

"We have a larger and far more toothsome bone to pick with the Lake Shore, towit—the pressing need of a new station.

"We have been long suffering and fairly patient for we have recognized, although we deplored, your inability to give us relief.

"I am sure if there is any chance for a real improvement in depot facilities that the city will at once co-operate enthusiastically and generously.

"A new depot where the present one stands, or a new depot on Broadway would not be much of an improvement over present conditions. You and your associates may think otherwise, and as far as your point of view is concerned you may be right in so thinking. At the same time there may be another and a better point of view—

several perhaps.

"For instance, there is shown in the accompanying map an available location for a depot, which, were it adopted, would be an improvement of such vast importance as to warrant the diverting of Swan Creek and the creating by the municipality of a spacious plaza several entire blocks in extent facing the depot building forming an imposing and beautiful entrance to the city within a stone's throw of its business center.

"At one stroke Toledo would be vastly enhanced in beauty. The improvement can hardly be measured by words or figures. No outlay of money on the part of the city would be too great to insure such a magnificent improvement which would immediately transform our threshold from its ramshackle ridiculousness to the sublimity of an acropolis.

"The most wonderful circumstance is that it is possible at all. A city might have the desire to repair the deplorable shortcomings of its youth, poverty and ignorance, only to find itself blocked by the inevitable advance of business, residences and values.

"Swan Creek has been a godsend and should be glorified accordingly in that it has held back the natural growth in this direction during all these years, thus making possible just that improvement necessary to give Toledo a threshold in keeping with its most cherished dreams of a City Beautiful.

"Such a civic improvement would be worth working for, striving for, fighting for, worth making great endeavor and great sacrifice to achieve, were these necessary, which I believe they are not. On the contrary the appeal of such a project would be irresistible and Swan Creek and the canal would at once be diverted and the bed turned over to your company for the tracks necessary to properly approach the proposed new station.

"The accessibility and attractiveness of a depot in the proposed locality would greatly increase the revenue of your lines by restoring much of the passenger traffic diverted by the, let us say, imagined convenience and the unquestioned propinquity of the electric roads.

"Neither the present depot site nor the Broadway site would counteract the inroads of the electric lines and the fault would not

be entirely one of location, but rather in its psychological effect, for people going or coming prefer to start or land joyfully in joyful surroundings. It is a part of the pleasure of a trip. One cannot be joyful either upon entering or leaving Toledo.

"I stood today at the foot of Superior street at Lafayette. Superior street is much wider than its fellows and is the natural broad thoroughfare to the proposed plaza and depot. Looking south from this point of vantage I saw the vast empty space the result of the extending of Superior street and the attendant filling and reclaiming. Here already cleared of obstruction is the land necessary for the station and the great concourse which would accommodate the tracks. Were you to stand at this point, you would, I am sure, find it worth a look.

"Even though you have matured plans, do for a moment assume a receptive attitude towards this other one. Many men, including Columbus, have advanced a sound idea, notwithstanding the imperturbability of contemporary authorities.

"A new depot anywhere would find Toledo most grateful, but a new depot in the locality I have indicated, would find our citizens jubilant and ready to give you liberal and enthusiastic assistance in the development of your project."

DECEMBER EXHIBITS OFFER POSSI-SIBLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

THERE will be a number of unusual interesting exhibits hung in the museum galleries during the month of December. A gallery will be devoted to the work of Frederick F. Fursman, whose splendid canvas, In the Garden, was recently added to the museum's permanent collection. There will also be an interesting group of canvases by Edmund W. Greacen of New York, an American painter of note, who has also met with considerable European recognition, being a member of the Societe des Artistes Independents of Paris, and the Allied Art Association of London. will also be shown a group of recent portraits by Walter Gillman Page of Boston. Mr. Page is a member of the Boston Art Club, the Copley Society, and is secretary of the Massachusetts State Art Commission. There will be shown in the sculpture court

a large exhibition of small bronzes by a number of leading American sculptors brought together by the American Federation of Arts. All these exhibits will continue during the entire month. During the last two weeks of the month there will be hung thirty spirited water colors by F. Hopkinson Smith, whose exhibits are always refreshing. Many of the works in these various exhibits will be for sale and there will be afforded the members many opportunities to purchase most acceptable and important Christmas gifts at very reasonable figures.

ART MAGAZINES ON FILE.

THE museum's free reference library is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the free use of all citizens whether members or not.

In addition to the large number of books on art and kindred topics, there will be found on file current numbers of the various Art Magazines, including the following:

Art and Progress.
The American Art News.
American Homes and Gardens.
The Architectural Record.
Art and Decoration.
The Bookman.
The Craftsman.
Current Opinion.
Country Life in America.
Fine Arts Journal.
The House Beautiful.
The House and Garden.
The International Studio.
Keramic Studio.
The Literary Digest.

The museum librarian is ready at all times to give assistance to those engaged in research work or in the preparation of school or club papers on art topics.

It might not be amiss to mention here that the museum needs more books on art, architecture, archaeology, design and the like. Second hand books will be welcomed, and any book will be made to do useful service for many years to come.

It might also be well to mention that we are not above receiving money with which to purchase books.

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